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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/731,529

Examiner

Haresh Patel

Applicant(s)

MILLER ET AL.

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/21/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-40.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 08/5/04.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISOR PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lawrence Lycke on August 3, 2004.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 1: (Currently amended) A media processing system interface to be implemented on a computing system comprising:

an input, coupled to a single instance of a source to access media content from the ~~source~~ instance in response to requests for said media content, the media content having a plurality of disparate media types to be processed ~~as via the input by~~ at least part of a media processing project;

two or more outputs, ~~one output each output~~ coupled to a different media processing subsystem processing a different single media type; wherein, the interface implements a ~~an~~ active filter graph ~~and the other output coupled to another media processing subsystem; and~~

a parser ~~to, to parser~~ route at least a subset of the media content of the instance received via the input, to at least a selected one of the ~~two or more outputs based, at least in part, on a~~ the media type of the subset, wherein the media processing subsystems are coupled to ~~a single instance of the source through the parser.~~

Claim 20: (Currently amended) A filter graph implemented within a media processing system, the filter graph comprising:

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a video processing subsystem to process video content;
an audio processing subsystem to process audio content, the video and the audio content ~~to be~~are processed ~~by~~as at least part of a media processing project; and
a parser object, coupling one or more of the video processing subsystems, and the audio processing subsystem, to a single instance of a multimedia source, to selectively parse said audio content and said video content from a media content of the instance, and to selectively provide the audio processing subsystem and the video processing subsystem with requested said audio content and said video content, respectively.

Claim 35: (Currently amended) A storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions, that when executed by a machine, implement a media processing system, the media processing system including a filter graph containing an input object, an output objects, and a parser object to couple a plurality of media processing subsystems via the output objects to a single instance of a source to provide providing each of the coupled media processing subsystems with the subsystems requested content from the single instance of the source via the input object, wherein, each of the output object is processing the requested content of a different single media type, and the requested content is selectively parsed from a media content of the instance and processed as by at least part of a media processing project.

DETAILED ACTION

4. The amendment on August 3, 2004 is noted and made of record.
5. Claims 1-40, are presented for examination.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1-40, are allowed.
7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

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Applicant's invention discloses a media processing interface / system / computer readable medium to implement a filter graph that parses based on different media types data from a single instance of a multimedia data source for a different media processing subsystems used for a media processing project.

The cited teaching provides a multimedia processing project constructed by the filter components of the filter graph having, an input module coupled to the single instance of the multimedia source, a parser module to parse the multimedia data (i.e., mixed audio and video data), into different media types data, (i.e., separate audio and video data), and, an output modules that receive their respective requested media type data. Plurality of media processing subsystems request their respective specific media type data, i.e. either the audio or the video data type, from a multimedia source file containing multimedia information (i.e., mixed contents of audio and video). The multimedia source provides the multimedia data to the input module in a single instance, without creating another instance of the multimedia data or making a copy of the multimedia data. The input module provides the multimedia data in a single instance to the parser module, without creating another instance of the multimedia data or making a copy of the multimedia data. The parser also without creating another instance of the multimedia data or making a copy of the multimedia data, parses the single instance multimedia data into the different media types data, (i.e., separate audio and video data). The parsed, i.e., separated audio and video data is provided to the output modules handling respective media type contents, i.e., either the audio or the video type content. Each output module forward the specific media type content to their respective coupled media processing subsystems as a response to the requests.

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None of the filter graph components create another instance of the multimedia data for parsing different media types data (i.e., separate audio and video data) from the multimedia data.

The concept of parsing different media data types from a single multimedia data source is well known. However, a multimedia-processing project constructed by the filter components of the filter graph as disclosed has not been used for the implementation by any of the cited prior arts. Therefore, the claims are allowable over the art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haresh Patel whose telephone number is (703) 605-5234. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee, can be reached at (703) 305-8498.

The appropriate fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

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Haresh Patel

August 3, 2004


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